(e) The main reasons for losses of UPSEB and its high outstanding dues to CPSUs are, *inter alia*, low plant load factor of its thermal power stations, high transmission and distribution losses, sub-optimal tariffs and high receivables from its consumers.

(f) The installed capacity of UPSEB as on 31.10.1996 was 6074 MW. During the current year from April to November, 1996, the actual generation of power plants of UPSEB was 15224 MUs and the PLF of Thermal Power Stations was 45.1%.

(g) The Uttar Pradesh Government has initiated steps to restructure its power industry including privatising distribution of power and is finalising a Bill to put in place the requisite legal changes. It has also taken in hand several steps to improve the physical and financial performance of its Electricity Board.

*[English]*

**Demand and Supply of Power**

*390. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have made any study on the overall demand of power in the country by 2000 AD;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost required to generate power to meet the demand by that year;

(d) whether the Government propose to seek external aid/assistance from private sector to meet the requirement of funds; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b). 15th Electric Power Survey has estimated the peak load and energy requirement as 90093 MW and 535903 MUs respectively in the year 2000-01.

(c) to (e). The Ninth Plan is under finalisation. The details of precise requirements of funds could be known only after the finalisation of the Ninth Plan. However, all possible sources of finances, including external assistance and investments from the private sector would need to be explored.

*[English]*

**Price of Crude Oil**

*391. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the price of crude oil in the international market during the last six months, month-wise;

(b) the impact of higher international crude oil prices on indigenous prices of petroleum products and oil pool account deficit;

(c) whether the Government propose to move from administered price mechanism to market driven prices of petroleum products; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Prices of oil in the international market are highly volatile and are subject to wide fluctuations. The monthly average price of market crude oils (Dubai, Oman, Dated Brent and WTI) in the international market for the last six months i.e. from June, 1996 to November, 1996 month-wise, based on Plants crude oil marketwise are furnished hereunder :

(Figures in $/bbl)

| | Dubai | Oman | Brent | WTI |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| June, 1996 | 17.25 | 17.65 | 18.43 | 20.45 |
| July, 1996 | 17.79 | 18.49 | 19.64 | 21.33 |
| August, 1996 | 18.64 | 19.28 | 20.56 | 21.93 |
| September, 1996 | 20.42 | 20.95 | 22.64 | 23.92 |
| October, 1996 | 21.76 | 22.12 | 24.16 | 24.90 |
| November, 1996 | 20.94 | 21.39 | 22.69 | 23.72 |

(b) The cumulative outstandings of the oil companies from the oil pool account are estimated to rise to Rs. 15.500 crores by 31.3.97.

(c) and (d). A 'Strategic Planning Group' on restructuring of the National Oil Industry with members comprising of tup management from public and private sector and leading experts from academic and research institutes, was formed. The Group has submitted its report.

*[Translation]*

**Private Power Projects**

*392. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of multinational companies from which proposals have been received for setting up of power projects in the country so far;

(b) whether the Government are considering to set up some such power project in the backward areas of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be implemented?